

Northamptonshire Record Office

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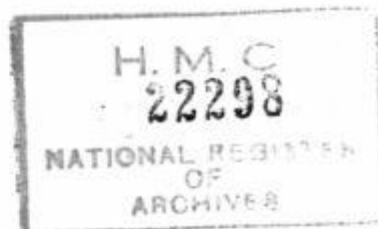
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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE



Records of Whitney & Westley Ltd.,
Shoe Manufacturers, of
Finedon Street, Burton Latimer.

Accession 1978/221

Harry Whitney and Joseph Westley began a shoe manufacturing business on January 1st. 1896 in Burton Latimer. Beginning with just £50 and a workshop at 66, Finedon Street, rented for 1/6 a week, the partners had made £25 profit by the end of the year and were producing 400 pairs of men's shoes a week.

If the business was to expand, new and larger premises were needed, so Messrs. Whitney and Westley purchased land across the road from the original premises, on which they built a three storey factory. Shoe production in this factory soon reached 1,000 pairs a week. These premises were subsequently extended in 1899, 1904 and the early 1930's, covering the area of the present factory. New frontage was built after the old one was partially destroyed by fire in 1969.

In 1913, the founders of the Company retired, leaving their sons, Joseph Whitney and Frank Westley, to run the business. When Joseph Whitney died in the 1920's, Frank Westley remained the sole Managing Director until his retirement in 1950. Oliver Tailby, who joined the Company in 1900 as an office boy and became a director in 1918, became Joint Managing Director with Angus Westley, the son of Frank Westley, in 1950. Herbert Dunmore, who also joined the Company as a boy in the Lasting Department, was a well known shoe expert and became Works Director from 1946 until his retirement in 1968. Mr. J.H. Matthews became a Managing Director in 1957 and today he and Mr. Angus Westley run the Company.

The Company's branch factory in Mill Road, Wellingborough, was purchased in 1929 and now produces only closed uppers. Part of the Burton Latimer premises are occupied by Whitney and Westley's associated Company, Angus Westley (Shoemaker) Ltd. - a branded Instock warehouse serving the retail trade.

Today Whitney and Westley produce medium to better grade quality, men's leather shoes, manufactured by the Goodyear welted or cemented methods of construction. The shoes are sold on the national market and exported mainly to North America, Australia, New Zealand, Scandinavia and EEC countries.

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Whitney & Westley Ltd.

- 1 Purchase Analysis Book: Jan 1955-Dec 1956
Gives the names of suppliers of various types of goods and the payments by Whitney & Westley Ltd. to each. Totalled monthly and annually.
- 2 Customers Accounts Ledger: July 1936-Oct 1937
Gives the name and address of each customer, with an index in the front of the book, the date of payment and the amount paid by cheque or returns. There are also several loose letters between Whitney & Westley Ltd. and customers.
- 3 Wages Books:
Wages are divided into factory departments, with the names of each employee and the amount of wages paid to each and the amount of contributions paid.
 - a) Jan 1897-Dec 1909
 - b) July 1912-March 1913
 - c) March 1913-Sept 1913
 - d) Oct 1916-Dec 1917
 - e) Jan 1919-April 1920
 - f) Jan 1929-Dec 1933
(Mono Shoe Co., Alex Shoe Co. and Relay Shoe Co.)
 - g) June 1929-Aug 1929
(Mono Shoe Co.)
 - h) Jan 1934-Dec 1937
(Mono Shoe Co., Relay Shoe Co., Alex Shoe Co. and Whitney & Westley Ltd.)
 - i) Jan 1943-Jan 1948
(Mono Shoe Co.)
 - j) Jan 1948-Dec 1952
(Mono Shoe Co.)
- 4 Office Staff Wages Book: July 1915-May 1922

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Additional records of Messrs. Whitney & Westley

(Accession 1982/164)

(additional to Acc. 1978/221)

ZB 299

5	Memorandum & Articles of Association with amendments 1949, 1955 & 1970	1928
6	Ditto of Mediator Shoemakers Ltd (their sales company) with amendments 1949, & 1957	1946
7	Balance sheet	1945
8	Ditto	1963
9	Private Ledger	Apr. 1920-Nov. 1923
10	Cash book	1957-1972
11	Page of totals (of sales ?) at Amphill, Felixstowe &c.	1938-1962
12	Sales Ledger	1920-1927
13	Wages books, weekly totals of each employee	
1		July 1910-Jan. 1913
2	(with insurance deductions)	Sept 1913-June 1914
3		July 1914-Sept 1916
4		Jan. 1918-Dec. 1918
5	(different format)	May 1917-Oct. 1918
	Undated price list of each operation	
15	Printed & illustrated catalogue with French translations	c. 1921

ZB 299 (cont.)

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| 16 | Price list of Sewing Cottons of English Sewing Cotton Co. | 1917 |
| 17 | File of price lists | 1968-1977 |
| 18 | Newspaper article about the firm | 1971 |
| 19 | Copy of outline drawing of street of elevation of factory (after the fire of 1968) | 1969 |
| 20 | Copy of street elevation as rebuilt and first floor plan (A.P. Lewis & Sons Ltd, Burton Latimer and F.W.A. Picozzi and Partners, Kettering) | 1969 |
| 21 | Copy of block plan of rear of factory site with plan of new toilets for Mediator Shoemakers Ltd. | |

July 1982